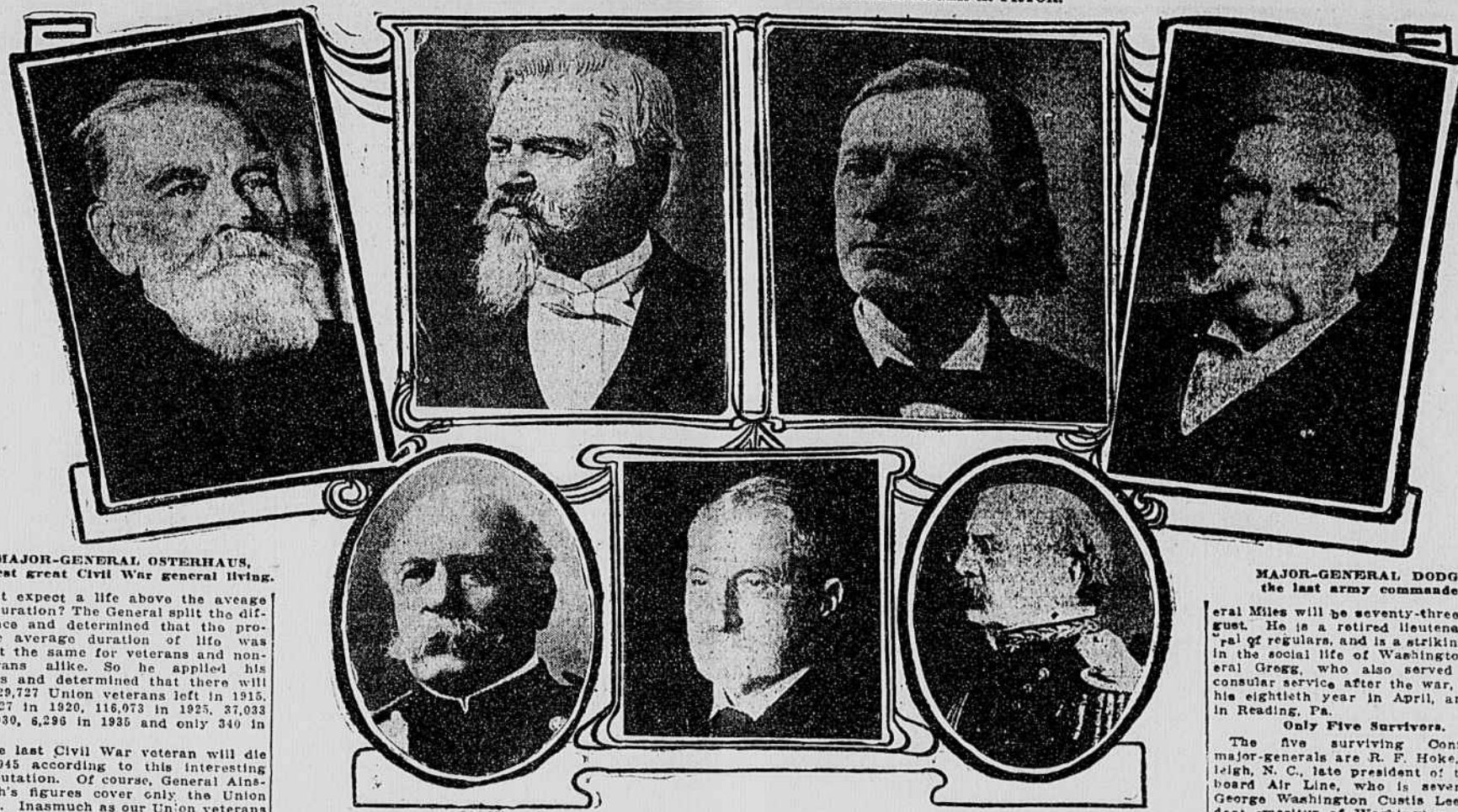


Seven Veterans of the Civil War Are Answering Last Roll Each Hour

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL BUCKNER.

GENERAL ROGER A. PRYOR.



MAJOR-GENERAL OSTERHAUS, Oldest Great Civil War general living.

MAJOR-GENERAL DODGE, the last army commander.

MAJOR-GENERAL JAMES H. WILSON.

MAJOR-GENERAL G. W. CUSTIS LEE.

MAJOR-GENERAL SICKLES.

BY JOHN ELLFRET WATKINS
THIS Memorial day's roll call will show that more than three-fourths of the Civil War's Blue and Gray graves have gone beyond. They tell me at the pension office that our Union veterans are now dying off at the rate of 100 a day. As deduced from the best figures procurable the death rate of our Confederate veterans must be about seventy a day. This means a grand total of more than seven per hour—more than one every ten minutes.

In the vast cities of graves to be decorated this year, those of our Civil War soldiers and sailors alone number 2,685,000. If dug side by side they would constitute a great metropolis of the dead, more populous than Chicago, Berlin or Vienna. Of these graves, some 2,020,000 have been dug since the surrender of Appomattox.

To help lay wreaths upon these millions of comrades' tombs there will be surviving on Memorial day, this year, but about 850,000 Civil War veterans—some 60,000 less than could pay this tribute a year ago. And of these about 600,000 are Union and about 250,000 are Confederate veterans. The average age of these survivors is now past the seventy-year mark, and the veteran armies at an annual rate which has gone above 6 per cent. During the past spring the death rate of our Union pensioners alone has risen close to 2,200 in a single month (March), for spring is always the hardest month on people of advanced years—even harder than winter. Midsummer, too, exacts a heavy tribute from this class, more than 3,100 pensioned survivors of the Union Army having answered their last roll call in April of the past year, whereas the monthly average of their deaths for the months of last autumn was scarcely above 2,500, from which there was a steady increase through last winter and this spring.

How Long Will They Last?

Diminished by such a death rate, how long will our Civil War veterans last? In what year will the last survivor of that bitter struggle be finally mustered out?

By an ingenious system of computation Major-General Frederick Ainsworth, who lately retired as Adjutant-General of the army, some time ago figured out this very point for the assistance of Congressmen concerned with pension legislation. Although the actual number of men who saw Civil War service had never been officially determined, General Ainsworth concludes after considerable research, that 2,215,365 individuals were engaged on the Union side, 2,128,948 of these being in the army and 86,417 in the navy. As 354,116 of these died and 121,586 deserted during the war, there were 1,727,553 Union veterans alive at the time of the grand review at the end of the struggle. As our pension statistics have never accounted for any known proportion of Civil War survivors, since many veterans, because of prosperity or from sentimental motives, have never applied for pensions, there was no accurate guide to the death rate of this class of men. So General Ainsworth sought to apply insurance tables for the expectation of life to the entire class of survivors.

Their "Expectation of Life"

Two questions now had to be considered by the General: Would the shock of battle, the hardships and privations of field, camp and prison bring the "expectation of life" for these veterans below the average? Or were these survivors a selected class, which by the law of the survival of the fittest

might expect a life above the average for duration? The General split the difference and determined that the probable average duration of life was about the same for veterans and non-veterans alike. So he applied his tables and determined that there will be 429,727 Union veterans left in 1915, 251,727 in 1920, 115,973 in 1925, 37,033 in 1930, 8,295 in 1935 and only 349 in 1940.

The last Civil War veteran will die in 1945 according to this interesting computation. Of course, General Ainsworth's figures cover only the Union army. Inasmuch as our Union veterans have been better cared for than those of the Confederate side, and as there were about 500,000 more Union than Confederate troops in the war, it might be assumed that the last Civil War veteran will wear the blue.

Confederate Pensioners.

How old will this last survivor be, if these figures prove true? He will live to see the eighty-fourth anniversary of Sumter and the eightieth anniversary of Lee's surrender. This would mean that if sixteen when the war broke out and twenty when it closed, he would die at the age of 100, an assumption not at all extravagant. According to the official records, pension claims have lately been allowed to Civil War veterans as old as 103, 107, and even 108. Indeed, the great longevity of pensioners, as a general class, is proverbial. Assurance that there will always be provision for the needs of life banishes that anxiety of mind which is the forerunner of disease and physical collapse.

So it may be said that General Ainsworth's figures are conservative, to say the least. Many survivors of the Civil War were boys of only sixteen, and even younger, in the last year of that struggle. In 1945 such of these survivors will be ninety etc. Such as reach their hundredth birthday will live until 1949, and there is good rea-

son for the prediction that there will be some with us in 1950.

The last surviving pensioner of the War of 1812, Hiram Cronk, of Ava, N. Y., died as late as May 13, 1906, at the age of 105 years and 16 days, according to the pension rolls. If his record is equalled by any of the younger veterans who enlisted in the War of Secession at sixteen, during the last year of that struggle, we will have a Civil War veteran with us in the flesh forty-two years hence, or as late as the year 1954. But Hiram Cronk, that last honored soldier of the second war with Great Britain, did not hold the longevity record among our pensioners. There was one other who beat him hands down.

A Veteran Near 110.

The last survivor of the revolution, Daniel F. Bakeman, according to the pension records, died at Freedom, Cattaraugus county, N. Y., as late as April 5, 1869, at the age of 109 years, 6 months and 8 days. He was a youth of sixteen when independence was declared, was twenty-two when Cornwallis surrendered, and he lived to see the War of 1812, the Mexican and Civil Wars fought to a finish, the administration of Andrew Johnson brought to a close and that of Grant commenced.

As stated, many boys far under sixteen served in the Civil War and many of these endured during the last months of that struggle. I have before me an unofficial table showing that those of sixteen and under who enlisted numbered 844,801; those of fourteen and under, 1,523; twelve and under, 226, and ten and under, 25.

Last Will Die 1905.

Some of these twenty-five youngest lads, mostly drummer boys, entered the service during the last year of the war. If any of them, of this category, equals the record of the last Revolutionary soldier, we will still have a Civil War veteran left fifty-two, fifty-three or perhaps fifty-four years hence, or say about the year 1965-1966, at the time the coming generation is celebrating the 100th anniversary of the return of peace, after Lee's surrender! General Ainsworth's figures are of the safe kind that life insurance companies gamble on and he was dealing only with the average man, while we have been speculating upon the exceptional man. And out of the 3,500,000 individuals who saw service in the Civil War some are very exceptional men. So, taking all things into consideration, it is not unreasonable to assume that America will have

a Civil War veteran to honor when more boys of to-day are gazed old fellows that see Taft and Roosevelt. Clark and Wilson and the others as far back through the haze of time as our sages of to-day now see the actors of the great Civil War drama.

What a funeral that will be, when the last survivor of the Civil War answers his last roll call, whether he be buried in the uniform of the blue or of the gray! Very few of us now of mature years will live to see the spectacle. The century run for this last signal honor will be spirited. Hundreds of old codgers will be in the running, and as they fall by the wayside one by one, the whole nation will look on agape to see who gets the laurel wreath.

Civil War Widows Till 1990.

But after this last survivor has passed we will still have several generations of Civil War widows to link our descendants with the days of '61-'65. If the last Civil War widow survives as long after Appomattox as the last Revolutionary widow, Esther Damon, survived after Yorktown, she will be with our great-grandchildren in 1990. And this is a conservative prediction, for Dame Esther was but ninety-two when she died at Plymouth Union, Vt., in 1906.

The Memorial Day's roll call of the great Civil War generals will show that only a dozen above the rank of brigadier are still with us. At the War Department and Pension Office I have just checked up with the records.

One Lieutenant-General Left.

Only one lieutenant-general of that great conflict has won thus far in the race against Father Time. This is Simon Bolivar Buckner, who ran for Vice-President on the Palmer ticket in 1896. In his quiet old log house at Glen Lily, near Munfordville, Ky., one of the most noted country homes in that State—this venerable old soldier and one-time Governor, who had the grace to act as one of General Grant's pallbearers, entered his ninetieth year on April 1. His friend and brother-in-law, Confederate officer General Marcus Wright, tells me that the other day he received a letter, written in a firm hand, from the sage of Glen Lily, who was apparently enjoying his usual vigor of mind.

Besides him there survive only three Civil War officers who commanded army corps by assignment of their President. They are Major-General Grenville M. Dodge, Daniel E. Sickles and James Harrison Wilson, all of the Union side. Of these, General Dodge has the honor of being the last surviving army commander of the war, for he was given command of the Department and Army of Missouri in 1864 when he was only thirty-three. After the war he had directive charge of the building of the Union Pacific Railway, managed many other great engineering enterprises and served in Congress. At his home in Council Bluffs, Iowa, he celebrated his eighty-first birthday April 12.

One General's Great Distinction.

General Sickles's eighty-seventh birthday will come around in October. He enjoys the distinction of being the senior surviving official of the Federal government, having been in the diplomatic service under Pierce and having served in Congress throughout Buchanan's administration. In the house which he has occupied almost since the war he lives in New York City, which is also the home of the only other American who sat in Congress before the war, the Confederate brigadier-general, Roger A. Pryor, who will be eighty-four during the coming summer. The seventy-fifth milestone of Major-General Wilson will be passed September 2. He was a major-general also in the Spanish War, and was in command of the allied American and British troops which captured Peking during the Boxer troubles.

There survive also four Union generals who in the Civil War were corps commanders by virtue of their precedence in the field of operations. These are Peter J. Osterhaus and Julius H. Stahl, who were major-generals during the war; David McMurtre Gregg and Nelson A. Miles, who were brigadiers-general at the time of Lee's surrender.

Osterhaus entered his ninetieth year last January. Since he finished his eleven years' service as our consul at Lyons, under Johnson and Grant, he has remained in his native Germany, at Mannheim. Seven years ago Congress expressed the nation's gratitude to this old soldier by placing him on the retired list of the regular army, with the rank of brigadier-general.

General Stahl, a native of Hungary, who before our war had fought for his native independence under Kosuth, lives in New York, and will enter upon his eighty-eighth year of old bachelorhood in November. He served in the regular service after the war. Gen-

eral D. Lomax, one of the commissioners of the Gettysburg Park, who is seventy-six; William T. Martin, of Nabers, Miss., now in his ninetieth year, and Court Camille Jules Polignac, who is eighty.

Count Polignac, like General Osterhaus, returned to Europe after the war. He came to America from his native France at the outbreak of that struggle, and after the surrender fought with his French kinsmen against the Prussians; then led an expedition to Algeria. He married an Austrian countess, and, besides his chateau outside of Paris, owns a mansion in that metropolis, another in London and an estate in Podewin, Austria, his present home.

Of these surviving heroes of our war of wars, Major-General Osterhaus is the eldest. The greatest age thus attained by a general of the Civil War was that of General Sheridan's father-in-law, Brigadier-General Daniel H. Rucker, who in 1910 died in his ninety-eighth year. He was born before the outbreak of the War of 1812, and lived under the administrations of all of our Presidents save the first three.

Inasmuch as our Civil War officers were of a class older than the men in the ranks, it is improbable that a sword will rest upon the coffin of the last survivor of that bitter struggle. (Copyright, 1912, by John Ellfret Watkins.)

GLADSTONE

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Gladstone, Va., May 25.—H. B. Stringfellow, of Philadelphia, is spending some time with his father, B. B. Stringfellow here. Mr. and Mrs. M. Slavin and little son are visiting friends in Richmond. L. G. Capell, of Hinton, W. Va., is on a visit to his old home here.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Akers and baby are visiting in Richmond. Mrs. Cordelia Horsley, of Lynchburg, is spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Wallace, in the village. H. L. Fisher was in Richmond this week. W. R. Jobs and wife are in Richmond.

A Genuine Hair Restorer

Did you ever know of any hair preparation which would really grow hair and restore the color to gray or faded hair?

There are many preparations highly advertised to do the work, but it is probably your experience that none of them will really meet the claims of their manufacturers.

There are many so-called Hair Restorers which are nothing more than harmful chemical dyes, which do not grow any hair, the only result being that they dyed the hair, having no permanency and often causing a streaky appearance.

It has been the aim of the chemists for years to discover a preparation which would really grow hair and restore the color to gray or faded hair, but heretofore they have met with no success.

Prof. Rembler now claims to have discovered a combination of harmless vegetable composition which is a Genuine Hair Restorer and will grow hair and does not contain any dye of any kind, but will positively restore the natural color and brilliancy to gray and faded hair.

This is a very strong statement to make, and if any chemist without the recognized ability and national reputation of Prof. Rembler were to make this claim we would be inclined to be skeptical as to its truth. It will be remembered by readers that are familiar with scientific discoveries that Prof. Rembler was the inventor of the one fire process for gilding glass, and also the Rembler Wireless Coherer. Any statement made by Prof. Rembler is entitled to consideration, as he would not make any statements which were not true and would injure his established reputation.

The Silonon Mfg. Co., of Pueblo, Colo., have purchased the exclusive American rights to manufacture Sagine, as they have named Prof. Rembler's invention, after having made a six months' test of Sagine and thoroughly demonstrating that it would positively do the work. The Silonon Mfg. Co. have authorized us to make the following remarkable offer to all who need a "Genuine Hair Restorer."

They will send a written agreement with every bottle of Sagine, to the effect that if one bottle of Sagine conscientiously used according to the directions does not give entire satisfaction to the purchaser; if Sagine does not actually grow hair and restore the color to gray or faded hair, remove dandruff and make the hair healthy and glossy, they will pay the sum of \$5 to any dissatisfied purchaser.

This is the strongest offer ever made by any manufacturer, and one they could not possibly make if they did not know positively from experiment that it would do exactly what they claim for it. No one takes any chance in buying Sagine, as it is certainly worth \$1 to use a Genuine Hair Restorer that will really grow hair, and if it does not give satisfaction they will pay you the \$5 as agreed. Send a \$1 bill to The Silonon Mfg. Co., Pueblo, Colo., stating that you wish to purchase a bottle of Sagine with the written agreement to grow hair and restore the color to gray or faded hair or pay you the sum of \$5, and it will be sent to you by express in plain wrapper.

The Silonon Mfg. Co. is incorporated under the laws of the State of Colorado and refer you to the mercantile agencies or any Pueblo banks as to their ability to fulfill any agreement they make.

THE SILONON MFG. CO., Pueblo, Colo.

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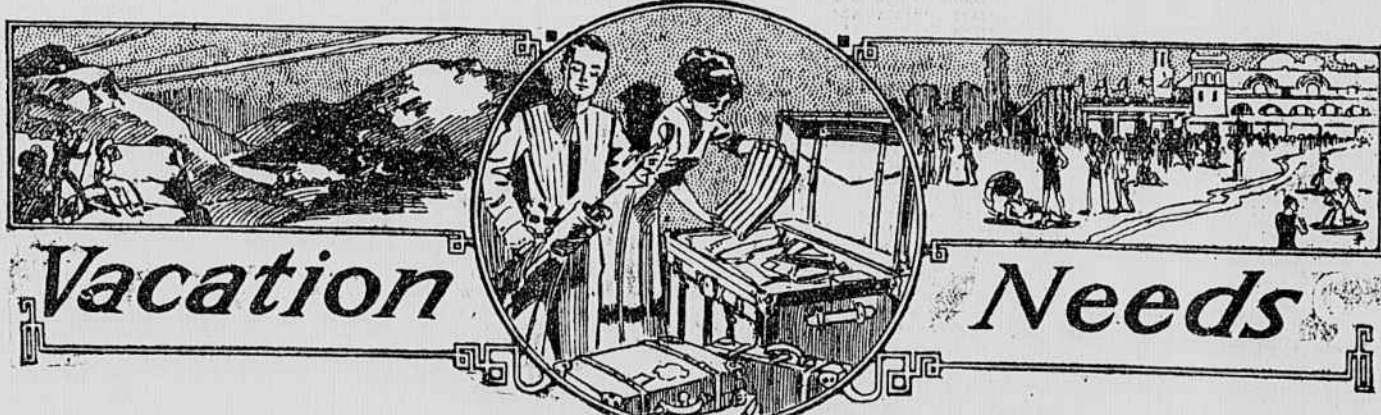
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As the summer days come on apace you will soon seriously consider that vacation trip. Soon you will be turning over the pages of guide books, consulting railroad timetables and reveling in the delight of anticipation.

The thoughtful man prepares for his trip a long time ahead. He knows of the hundred and one little things that are absolutely necessary for the vacation, and does not wait until the last moment to make his purchases. His trip, therefore, is not marred by the last few days of haste and worry previous to departure.

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